

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03165 300833Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2705
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 3165

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IV, UK

SUBJECT: PRINCE CHARLES VISIT TO IVORY COAST

1. IVORY COAST GAVE A ROYAL WELCOME TO PRINCE CHARLES DURING HIS

MARCH 25-28 VISIT. PROUD OF THE FACT IVORY COAST
WAS THE FIRST FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN COUNTRY TO RECEIVE AN
OFFICIAL VISIT OF A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY, GOIC BEDECKED
THE CITY IN FLAGS AND TURNED OUT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THE
POPULATION FOR A CHIEF-OF-STATE STYLE RECEPTION. PRINCE
CHARLES CHARMED THE IVORIANS WITH HIS HUMOROUS REMARKS
ABOUT HIS FRENCH (WHICH ISN'T ALL THAT BAD) AND HIS NEED
FOR A BRILLIANT IVORIAN TUTORESS. IN ADDITION, THE PRINCE
PAID TRIBUTE TO THE REMARKABLE ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF IVORY
COAST AND THE WISDOM OF PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY. THE
LIGHTLY-SCHEDULED WEEKEND VISIT INCLUDED A TOUR OF THE
PORT AND NAVAL BASE AS WELL AS A TRIP UPCOUNTRY TO
HOUPHOUET'S HOMETOWN OF YAMOOUSSOUKRO.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH LARGELY FOR CEREMONIAL AND GOOD-
WILL PURPOSES, THE VISIT WAS A CLEAR SUCCESS. THE
IVORIANS MOUNTED A SPLENDID SHOW FOR THEIR ROYAL VISITOR
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BY WHOM THEY WERE FASCINATED AND CHARMED. FOR HIS PART,
PRINCE CHARLES DECLARED HIMSELF OVERWHELMED WITH THE
WARMTH OF THE WELCOME AND SAID HE HADN'T SEEN GREATER
CROWDS TURNED OUT ANYWHERE ON HIS BEHALF. END COMMENT. STEARNS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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